

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-21 (Canceled).

Claim 22 (New): A method for preparing a mat including glass fiber comprising:

- a) deposition or projection of threads including glass fibers onto a traveling belt to form a lap of the threads that is driven by the belt; then
 - b) needling by bearded needles passing through the lap and being displaced in a direction of the lap at substantially a same speed as that when they pass through the lap, with a stroke density ranging from 1 to 25 strokes per cm².

Claim 23 (New): The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the stroke density of the needling is at most 15 strokes per cm².

Claim 24 (New): The method as claimed in claim 23, wherein the stroke density of the needling is at most 10 strokes per cm².

Claim 25 (New): The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the stroke density of the needling is at most 2 strokes per cm².

Claim 26 (New): The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the threads are continuous threads including the glass fibers.

Claim 27 (New): The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the threads are cut threads including the glass fibers.

Claim 28 (New): The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the needling is carried out by needles fastened to a support, the beards of the needles being directed toward the support.

Claim 29 (New): The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the lap and the mat derived from the lap advance at a speed of 2 to 35 meters per minute.

Claim 30 (New): The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the lap and the mat derived from the lap advance at a speed of at least 8 meters per minute.

Claim 31 (New): The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the lap and the mat derived from the lap advance at a speed of at most 20 meters per minute.

Claim 32 (New): The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the needles describe an elliptic movement.

Claim 33 (New): The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the mat does not contain any binder.

Claim 34 (New): A needled mat of continuous threads including glass fiber, if appropriate sized, and without any needle holes visible to the naked eye, the mat being bound by loops of the threads.

Claim 35 (New): The mat as claimed in claim 34 in a form of a roll.

Claim 36 (New): A method for preparing a thermosetting matrix composite material comprising impregnation of the mat of claim 34 with a thermosetting resin.

Claim 37 (New): The method as claimed in claim 36, wherein the impregnation is with closed-mold injection (RTM).

Claim 38 (New): A method for preparing a preimpregnated sheet (SMC) comprising continuous insertion of the mat of claim 34 between two layers of thermosetting resin paste.

Claim 39 (New): A preimpregnated sheet including the mat of claim 34 and a thermosetting resin.

Claim 40 (New): A method for manufacture of a composite material by molding of the sheet of claim 39 by pressure on its main faces, thus resulting in a widening of the sheet before solidification of the resin.

Claim 41 (New): A composite material obtained by the method of claim 36.

Claim 42 (New): A composite material with a thermosetting matrix and with a reinforcement comprising continuous glass filaments.